for integrated development of the affected areas.

High-Tech Security of Jagannath Temple, Puri (Orissa)

2334. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to provide high-tech security system in the 12th century Lord Jagannath Temple in Puri, Orissa which contains valuable ornaments and precious stones worth hundreds of crores;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the existing security system in the temple is not foolproof;

(c) whether the Centre propose to help the cash-strapped State both physically and financially to upgrade their security system in the above holy temple; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Police being a state subject under the Constitution, it is for the Government of Orissa to assess the security arrangements of the Lord Jagannath temple and strengthen them as per the local threat perception.

(b) Central Government keeps advising the State Governments to strengthen the security arrangements of vulnerable places as per intelligence inputs available with it.

(c) and (d) Central Government helps various States including Orissa for modernization of their police forces including acquisition of latest weaponry, security and surveillance equipments etc.

Indo-US Treaty on Criminal Matters

2335. SHRI RAASHID ALVI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-US treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters came into force with both countries formally signing instruments of ratification on 4th October, 2005;

(b) if so, whether treaty is meant for further cooperation between India and USA to complete criminal activities, drug trafficking and scourge of terrorism;

(c) whether this treaty will enhance ability of two countries to pursue their common objective of law enforcement by putting in place a legal mechanism; and

(d) if so, to what extent this treaty has helped both India and US?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Indo-US treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters came into force with both countries formally signing the Protocol of Exchange of Instruments of Ratification on 3rd October, 2005.

(b) and (c) The Treaty will improve the effectiveness of the law enforcement authorities of both India and USA in investigation, prosecution, prevention and suppression of crime including those relating to terrorism, drug and narcotics trafficking, economic and organized crime through cooperation and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. The Treaty will provide the necessary legal framework for seeking legal assistance in criminal matters between the signatory States.

(d) It is too early to assess, the extent to which the treaty has helped both India and USA.

Joining of terrorist outfits

2336. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that terrorist group Hizbul Mujahedin has a non-Muslim in its cadre;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have tried to ascertain the circumstances underlying non-Muslim youth joining an anti-national terrorist group;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and